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NEW YORK TIMES
5 APRIL 1983

FOE OF SANDINISTS FAULTS U.S. POLICY

'This Is Not the Way to Do It,'
He Says of Administration
Backing for Guerrillas

By RAYMOND BONNER

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 4—A leader of one of Nicaragua's anti-Sandinist groups today criticized the Reagan Administration's support for guerrillas who are trying to topple the Sandinist Government, saying it would lead to sharper political divisions and less likelihood that a democratic government would eventually come to power.

"If the Reagan Administration wants to democratize Nicaragua and pacify the region, this is not the way to do it," said the spokesman, Dr. Alvaro Jerez, a member of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, an anti-Sandinist group based in Costa Rica.

In an interview, Dr. Jerez added that the Administration's support for a military solution in Nicaragua would fail because the Sandinist Army would defeat the guerrillas.

"We are presenting ourselves as a third way out," said the 40-year old neurosurgeon, who was educated at George Washington University medical school.

Former Sandinist Is Leader

But he added, in response to a question, that the group's leaders had not been particularly successful when they traveled through Europe this year in search of support from governments and Socialist parties.

The Revolutionary Alliance is headed by Eden Pastora Gómez, a former hero of the Nicaraguan revolution who is also known as Commander Zero; Alfonso Robelo, a businessman who was a member of the first junta after Nicaragua's former leader, Gen. Anastasio Somoza Debayle, fled, and Brooklyn Rivera, a popular leader of the Miskito Indians. Dr. Alvarez, who is a top aide to Mr. Robelo and Mr. Pastora, was a member of the Council of State, the legislative body established by the Sandinists, before he fled into exile last year.

"Nicaragua is being polarized," Dr. Jerez said.

"Cuba and Russia are behind one side, the United States is behind the other," he added, referring to the Sandinists on the one hand and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force on the other. It is the armed members of the Democratic Force who are fighting in the north of Nicaragua in an effort to topple the Sandinist Government.

'A Return to the Past'

According to informed sources in the United States and Honduras, as well as reporters who have traveled with the guerrillas, the Democratic Force rebels have been trained and armed by the United States and the Administration is still supporting them, primarily by providing intelligence information.

Many, if not most, of the Democratic Force guerrillas are former members of General Somoza's national guard, including a senior leader, Enrique Bermúdez, a fact that prompted Dr. Jerez to say that the organization represented a "return to the past."

The existence of the two anti-Sandinist groups would appear to present a problem for countries, and even Nicaraguans, searching for an alternative to the Marxist-Leninist drift of the Sandinist Government.

The Revolutionary Alliance has virtually no military power, according to Dr. Jerez and others familiar with the organization, and so a military victory is not a part of its strategy. But it would appear to be in the best position to gain backing within Nicaragua and internationally, something the Democratic Force would presumably find difficult to obtain because of its links to the Somoza regime.

In the interview, Dr. Jerez, who said that he and the other members of his organization were "dissident revolutionaries, not counter-revolutionaries," outlined the proposals they had submitted to the Sandinists through informal channels. He said that the group wanted the Sandinists to commit themselves to elections for a constituent assembly this year and to the lifting of all press censorship.

Negotiations Are Rejected

Dr. Jerez said that the Revolutionary Alliance was not seeking any positions in the Government but that the Sandinists had rejected all efforts at negotiations.

The group has nevertheless praised much of what the Sandinists have done since coming to power. In a document signed by Mr. Pastora, Mr. Robelo and Mr. Rivera, it said:

"The literacy campaign, the confiscation of Somoza's property, the nationalization of the financial system, foreign commerce, and natural resources, the improvements in the distribution of income, some aspects of agrarian reform, are accomplishments which should be defended and fully implemented."

The document said that the Revolutionary Alliance would not accept any support from the Reagan Administration or the Central Intelligence Agency "since these forces are in open contradiction to our revolutionary ideals."

Dr. Jerez said it was an error to think the Sandinists could be defeated militarily, even by guerrillas trained and armed by the United States. He compared the guerrilla war in El Salvador with the one now beginning in Nicaragua. In both countries, he said, there are about 5,000 guerrillas. That number has not been able to topple the Government of El Salvador, whose army, Dr. Jerez noted, was about half the size of the Sandinists' army "and not as ideologically motivated."

In addition, he said, the Democratic Force would never be able to gain widespread support among the Nicaraguan peasants because of its links to General Somoza.

Asked how the Revolutionary Alliance expected to come to power without an army, Dr. Jerez said that the group had the support of many Sandinists within the Government and was organizing the peasants.

"Not all of them are Marxists-Leninists," he said of the Sandinist leaders.

"No solution from the outside is going to be a solution," he added.

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